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Egypt in Transition by Sidney Low

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that Mr. Jones who has lived among them for twenty years, deals, describing their customs and manner of life.

The Thlingets are still living in a tribal state though their tribal organization is being affected by the white occupation of their land. The natives are divided into two main totemic divisions or phratries, the Eagle and the Crow, which in turn are divided into numerous sub-totems. Marriage is forbidden within the phratry, but an attempt is made to marry son or daughter to a near relative on the father's side. The levirate custom also prevails of marrying a man's widow to his brother, even if he already has a wife and children. Another of the marriage customs is that of confining young girls as they are approaching womanhood in some cramped coop-like place for from four months to a year, and from which they generally emerge only to marry.

Descent is reckoned in the maternal line. The leaders of the tribal divisions are the shaman and the chief, whose offices may be either elective or hereditary. There is no federation among communities except for the tribal bond and tribal feuds are of common occurrence. The caste system prevails with originally four castes, the high, medium, low, and the slaves; but slavery has ceased to exist and the lowest caste has practically disappeared. The native customs are being rapidly modified by the opening up of the country to civilization.

*Egypt in Transition.* By SIDNEY LOW. New York: Macmillan. 1914. Pp. xxiv, 316.

Mr. Low writes from an Englishman's point of view, whose principal interest is in the British occupation of Egypt and the Sudan, and the story he has to tell is one of which England may well be proud. The most interesting chapters are those dealing with the Sudan, perhaps because less is known of that great empire which England has added to her dominion and because there the English administrative ability is shown at its best. Her spirit of compromise shows itself in the working of an absolutely unworkable system, for in the Sudan there has been established an Anglo-Egyptian state with theoretically equal powers reserved to both nations. Practically this vast realm, larger than Great Britain, France, Germany, and Austria together, is ruled by a handful of picked young Britons, men who at twenty-five or thirty are given a province to rule and at forty make way for a fresh supply of youngsters. Two small facts indicate the secret of England's ability to get along with her dependent races. In

the Sudan, the official holiday, following Mohammedan customs, is Friday, not Sunday, and commands given by English officers to their Arabian troops are in Turkish, the official language of the state.

The cities of the Sudan are being planned for future greatness; Khartum, which had to be built again from its foundations, and Port Sudan, which eight years ago was not marked on the map and which has already been established as a great commercial emporium and port of call for this region. The Sudanese government, whether it approves of the theory or not, is working out in practice some interesting experiments in state socialism. It builds and runs its railways, tramways and boats of all descriptions, manages its own water supply and electric lighting systems. In addition, the government owns a great deal of land and, fearing a land boom with its resultant collapse, has refused to sell its land but rents it on short-time leases. Whether that is a wise thing to do is still a question, for it discourages the coming in of capital which is needed in the development of the country's resources. Labor is also needed to increase the population decimated by the recent wars. A moderate estimate gives a decrease of seventy per cent in the population and this enormous gap Mr. Low proposes to fill by the importation of Indian Mohammedans.

An interesting introduction by Lord Cromer discusses the necessity of abolishing the Capitulations in Egypt. While he would not place foreigners under the jurisdiction of the same courts as the natives, he would substitute some form of justice which should be more under the control and regulation of the Egyptian government. The question of Capitulations is one that the present war will probably solve.

*Rasse und Volk.* By ALBRECHT WIRTH. Halle a. S. Niemayer: 1914. Pp. vi, 353.

This book written just before the outbreak of the war is a glorification of that new spirit of nationalism, which animates Germany and to a less extent the rest of the world and the results of which are to be seen on the battlefields of Europe today. Just how strong that feeling of nationalism is, may be judged from the quotation: "Race is in fact something divine. For it does not come from us, but is independent of us, beyond us; on the contrary we are dependent upon it. It is far stronger than we; it is predestined. And just as there is no refuge from God except